

**Nebraska Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program
Advisory Committee Meeting
March 12, 2014
Minutes
9:15-12:30**



Nebraska Room, Eugene T. Mahoney State Park

Attending:

<u>Members</u>	<u>Guests</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Nina Baker	Kelly Brakenoff-Interpreter	Jim Beavers
Kathy Beauchaine	Francis Beaurivage-Interpreter	MeLissa Butler
Linsay Darnall, Jr.	Amanda Montgomery	Kelci Kiltbau
Rhonda Fleischer	Rachel Scott	Kathy Northrop
Kim-Jae Kang	Shelli Janning	Debie Seiler
Richard Kang, MD		
Charlie Lewis		
Stacie Ray		<u>Newborn Screening Blood Spot Staff</u>
Colleen Richart		
Pete Seiler		Krystal Baumert
Matthew Thielker		Julie Luedtke

Meeting start time – The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Kathy Beauchaine at 9:17 am.

Open Meeting Act – Presented at the beginning of Advisory Committee Meeting by Kathy Beauchaine.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Kathy Beauchaine, Advisory Committee Chair for the Nebraska Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (NE-EHDI) Program Advisory Committee, welcomed all Committee members, staff, and guests.

II. Review of Agenda

There were no changes.

III. Review of Minutes

The minutes from the December 10, 2013 NE-EHDI Program Advisory Committee meeting were distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting and printed copies were available upon request at the meeting. A motion to approve the minutes as published was made by Pete Seiler, seconded by Richard Kang, and unanimously approved by the Committee members.

IV. Presentation on GBYS

Colleen Richart and Shelli Janning presented information on the Guide by Your Side Program as outlined in the handouts. Kim Jae requested that a pdf of the brochure be emailed to the Advisory Committee members. Stacie recommended that the Guide by Your Side program rent a booth at the Nebraska Speech-Language-Hearing Association 2014 Fall Convention to be held September 25-26, 2014 at the Cornhusker Marriott in Lincoln, Nebraska. Kathy N. reported that the NE-EHDI Program would have a booth at the convention. It was agreed that the NE-EHDI Program and Guide By Your Side would share a booth.

V. Home Births

Richard Kang stated that one of the hardest populations to get screened is home births. The NE-EHDI Program asked Dr. Kang, as the Chapter Champion, to contact the primary home birth physicians to educate them about the importance of hearing screening. He contacted the offices, however the physicians did not return his calls. It seemed as if they didn't want to talk to him. He will be attending the American Academy of Pediatrics meeting, and he hopes to speak with the doctors at that meeting. The Committee discussed how newborn hearing screening is not mandatory in Nebraska and therefore we don't have much leverage when trying to encourage newborn hearing screening. The Committee then discussed how changing the legislation to make hearing screening mandatory would be an advantage. Since the bloodspot is a mandatory screening in Nebraska, the Committee asked the staff from the bloodspot program to discuss the pros and cons of having a mandatory screening law. Julie Luedtke and Krystal Baumert shared their thoughts on the advantages and disadvantages of a mandatory screening law.

VI. Hearing Aid Bank/HearU

Stacie Ray presented the third quarter summary of HearU Nebraska for November 2013-January 2014 as presented in the handout. She also told the Committee about an upcoming fund raiser being held by HearU Nebraska. The Student Academy of Audiology 5k Fun Run will be held on April 26th, 2014 at 9 am. Funds are raised to support the Student Association and HearU Nebraska. She also invited Committee members to attend the open house at the Barkley Memorial Health Center on April 8, 2014 from 4-7 pm. Four different areas of interest will be displayed with one of them being HearU Nebraska.

VII. New Member Orientation Packet

Debie Seiler is working with Matthew, Pete, and Lindsay on developing a New Member Orientation packet. Some of the items that will be included in the packet include the following:

- The history and information contained in the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing (JCIH)
- Nebraska Infant Hearing Act of 2000
- NE-EHDI Program Advisory Committee charter and mission statement
- NE-EHDI Program staff and Advisory Committee roster
- Information on the HRSA and CDC grants which fund the program
- Goals of the Committee
- Committee members responsibilities and what categories they represent
- Definitions of terms and frequently used acronyms

The group is aiming to have a sample packet ready to present to the Committee by the next meeting. Once the new packet is ready, each member will get a copy so that everyone has the same information; new members will receive a copy as they join the NE-EHDI Program Advisory Committee.

VIII. Workshops

Debie Seiler provided an update on the family workshops that were held on March 8, 2014 in Gretna and March 9, 2014 in Kearney. The Gretna workshop was a joint effort with Metro Regional Programs and the Southeast Nebraska Regional Programs. A total of 22 families attended (30 parents and 23 children). Three of the families were Spanish speaking, so there was a need for two Spanish interpreters and two ASL interpreters. Childcare was provided by volunteers from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Omaha Campuses. The Kearney workshop was a joint effort with the Central Western Regional Program. A total of eight families attended (11 parents, nine children, and one professional teacher of the deaf). Rhonda Fleischer shared some comments

from the evaluations turned in at the end of the workshops. Overall, attendees rated the content as very helpful, and the overall experience as very positive.

- IX. Updated Map of Nebraska Cities with Birthing Facilities
MeLissa Butler shared an updated map of Nebraska cities with birth facilities. In 2014 there are 55 hospitals doing live births as shown on the handout.
- X. Natus/Peloton Screening Services
Kathy Northrop shared information with the Advisory Committee on Peloton Screening Services. Natus, the company that manufactures the ALGO 5 ABR hearing screener, has launched a nationwide program called *Peloton Screening Services*. They are a third party on-site provider for newborn hearing screenings in hospitals. The company has started contacting birth hospitals in Nebraska with greater than 1,000 births a year. NE-EHDI Program staff met with Peloton and the staff of a large Nebraska birth hospital to hear about the program. Overall, neither the hospital staff nor the NE-EHDI Program staff could see any immediate concerns or disadvantages to the service being outsourced however, the company just launched in July, 2014 so there isn't yet a track record. One thought is to examine the data to see how the rates, such as refers and lost to follow-ups are before and after Natus performs the hearing screenings.
- XI. Update on EHDI Website
Kathy Northrop stated that good progress is being made on the website and a draft should be available in the next few weeks.
- XII. Nebraska Open Meeting Act Review
MeLissa Butler reviewed the guidelines for video conferencing covered in the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. In the past, NE-EHDI Program has considered the possibility of having members attend the meetings via video conferencing. However, due to the guidelines, only 50% of the meetings each year can be held via video conferencing. If a member attends all meetings via teleconference, then they will only be counted as part of the quorum 50% of the time. The law states that reasonable arrangements are to be made in order to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting. At least one copy of all documents being considered would have to be available to the public at each site of the videoconference or telephone conference, at least one member of the state entity, Advisory Committee, board, council, or governing body would have to be present at each site of the video conference or telephone conference. Due to these guidelines, the possibility of holding meetings via video conferencing is not ideal for the committee at this time.
- XIII. Task Forces for HRSA Grant
Kathy Northrop briefly discussed the three Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) activities which are part the 2014 – 2017 HRSA Grant as shown in the handout. She will be asking for volunteers to serve on task forces. A survey will be disseminated to the Committee to determine interest in serving.
- XIV. New Quality Assurance Reports
Jim Beavers and MeLissa Butler discussed the updated quality assurance reports and pointed out how the updated report now shows the trends for the past three years for each hospital. Pete Seiler commented on the use of the term "hearing loss" and "normal hearing" on the report, and the negative connotations attached to the terms. The Committee discussed what terms could acceptably be used in its place. The Committee agreed that rather than "Normal Hearing", "Confirmed Hearing" could be used. In place of the term "Permanent Congenital Hearing Loss" the term "Confirmed Deaf or Hard of Hearing" could be used. Jim stated that these changes will be made to the Quality Assurance reports going forward.

XV. NE-EHDI Statistics for Lost to Follow Up Information

Jim Beavers discussed the 2013 NE-EHDI Status report, as presented in the handout.

XVI. Other

- Kathy N. will be sending a survey out to members regarding volunteers for the task forces.
- Kathy N. stated that Kelci Kilthau will graduate from UNL this spring and leaving the NE-EHDI Program in April 2014. The NE-EHDI Program staff recognized Kelci as a great addition to the team. Kathy then reported that NE-EHDI Program is in the process of interviewing other students and hopes to be making an offer soon so the new student can start before Kelci leaves.
- Kathy B. noted that the time and day of the week that the Advisory Meeting is held is not working for all members; so we may need to reconsider scheduling future meetings. She also suggested that the Advisory Committee may want to consider alternating the day of the week for meetings.
- Linsay Darnall Jr. wanted to recognize the efforts made by the Committee for keeping an open mind about the language used and how it represents individuals who are Deaf and Hard Hearing. He also wanted to recognize the nursing students in attendance, and hope they remember this experience as they start their careers working with families.

XVII. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Linsay Darnall, Jr. and seconded by Pete Seiler. The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 am.

2014 Meeting Dates:

- *June 11, 2014 at Mahoney State Park, Red Oak Room in the Main Lodge*
- *September 10, 2014 at Mahoney State Park, Riverview Lodge*
- *December 10, 2014 at Mahoney State Park, Red Oak Room in the Main Lodge*

Respectfully submitted by McLissa Butler, Community Health Educator